

"Caring, spacy and smart," are the first words that roll off of lone Skye's mind when I ask her to describe herself. If you ask lone Skye whether she'd rather be known for some of her other work besides Say Anything she says, "I'm OK with it, I don't mind." But maybe she should mind considering the fact that she's given us twenty five years of incredible work. Skye has shined brighter than a diamond in films like River's Edge, A Night In The Life Of Jimmy Reardon, Gas Food Lodging and Four Rooms for example. Hell, Skye even went "Grindhouse" before anyone else with her work in the Sam Fuller scripted girl-behind-bars Girls In Prison for Showtime back in the late '90s.

With so much great work under her belt, why has the mainstream media paid more attention to her fluxing up and down he-said-she-said personal life than her actual work in front of the camera? Doing a basic Google search today yields little notice about Skye's work and more about who she's been married to, who she may or may not be dating at one time, and whether or not she is fashionable. There's a decades old interview with Skye online, and literally hundreds of websites showcasing her at a premiere with husband Ben Lee. Anyone remotely familiar with Skye knows that her father is '60s legendary psychedelic folk rocker Donovan, and there are certainly those that remember Skye merely for her connections to former Beastie Boy Adam "King Ad-Rock" Horowitz or Anthony Kiedis of the Red Hot Chili Peppers pre "Under The Bridge". Hasn't anyone seen The Rachel Papers? lone Skye is incredible in the Damian Harris written and directed '80s teen dramedy, and that's just the tip of the iceberg post Say Anything.

Skye is perhaps the dictionary definition of the quintessential underrated under-used actress in Hollywood today. One only need to take a look at Allison Ander's must see 1992 indie Gas Food Lodging to see a truly brilliant lone Skye at work. In recent years, Skye's been working. She was in Fincher's Zodiac. She was on Arrested Development. She's been busy. She's become a mother of two. She's involved in several Los Angeles charities and she's also become a director and a accomplished painter. Check out her website [HERE](#):

TV STORE ONLINE: Where does your first name "lone" come from?

SKYE: My first name comes from my mom actually. There were two Scottish sisters that my mom knew. They were called Fiona and lone. My mom really liked the name. There's a more common "lona" as well. But "lone" has a cool Celtic background, and it also has some Greek background to it as well.

TV STORE ONLINE: How many people have come up to you and mispronounced your name to you?

SKYE: A million. I just got back from doing a project over in Ireland. And everyone was calling me "lona." Although it's a rare name in the states, it's very common over there.

TV STORE ONLINE: Where does your initial interest in acting come from?

SKYE: As a kid I loved musicals. I would dance around the house to WEST SIDE STORY. Then as I got older I started watching the Z Channel in Los Angeles. The guy that started that channel was showing these really cool somewhat obscure films, and I loved watching all of those. My mom, had very good taste in film as well. So as a teen, I was really into like artsy really cool films. I've actually always been kinda shy though. My brother Donovan Leitch has always been very outgoing, and as we got older, he started going out for auditions. And it was through him pushing me that I finally stepped out and got into acting. But it took a lot of pushing cause I'm just not a natural extrovert in any way.

TV STORE ONLINE: Wanna name any actresses that have influenced you?

SKYE: Influence wise...I love Vivian Leigh, Esther Williams, and like Diane Keaton, Shirley McClaine, and Debra Winger. I even loved the Doris Day movies when I was a teenager. Those really stand out for me.

TV STORE ONLINE: How did you get involved with RIVER'S EDGE?

SKYE: My mom had some photographer friends. And they came over one day to take pictures, and they were taking pictures in our living room, and I got caught in one of the pictures, and it was in the L.A. Weekly. So my brother actually auditioned for the movie first, cause the project had this great buzz about it. All the teen actors in L.A at the time really wanted to be in the film, cause it was a hot script. So my brother told me that I should go in to audition, cause he talked to the casting director about me, cause they connected us as brother and sister. The casting director had saw the picture of me from the L.A. Weekly. I was not happy in high school. I went to this big high school that I got lost in. All I could think about was getting out of there. So I went in for the audition and got it.

TV STORE ONLINE: I read somewhere that at the time you worked on RIVER'S EDGE you were really infatuated with Crispin Glover's acting process. On that note, as an actress starting your career on a film with such a cast, how was it working with Glover, River Phoenix and Keanu Reeves? Were they giving actors? Was there any type of ego stuff happening on-set?

SKYE: Well all of us involved were just blown away by Crispin Glover. He had just come off of BACK TO THE FUTURE, and he was really into the whole process. So all of us would just stand around with our mouth's wide open, just watching him at work. He was fearless, bold, and over the top. Keanu wasn't famous yet. He hadn't really done anything yet . So after Dennis Hopper, Crispin Glover was the biggest star of the film. We all bonded on that film. We were all teenagers that became friends.

Crispin Glover was into his own thing. He wasn't a diva, he was all about the art.

River was very warm and very sweet. He had no ego. But he was also a little eccentric. He was also very interested in the art of acting. Everyone was so great to work with.

TV STORE ONLINE: Doing the sexual scenes with Keanu Reeves, how did you approach that going in, being so young? Were you nervous about it?

SKYE: I was only fifteen when I made RIVER'S EDGE, and I was very precocious. Growing up in Hollywood, I had already been exposed to so many things, so the content wasn't anything shocking to me. When it came to making out with Keanu Reeves I was really shy, and I was very conscious to not allow myself to be exploited. The set, and the crew on RIVER'S EDGE were very respectful of me. It wasn't what I thought it would be. I really thought going onto that set was gonna be an experience like you read about. or something. You know, someone offers you cocaine or something, and it wasn't like that. It was a movie that was made by very smart people.

TV STORE ONLINE: Do you ever Google yourself? It seems like there is more written about your personal life, than your actual film performances. Is that discouraging to you?

SKYE: Sure..I do Google and Wire Image myself, but only to see like how I look. But not often. Like if I've been out to a premiere or a party or something, and I've got on a special dress, then I'll Google myself to see how I looked in the pictures that people took of me.

Also, I do wish that I would've done more films that I could be more proud of. I mean, I'm not a one hit wonder, in any way. I've done a couple movies that are well known. I did RIVER'S EDGE and SAY ANYTHING. For sure, I wish my career would have gone in a bigger direction. I think it's me butting up against my very shy side, and also my very rebellious side in a sense. Back then, when I was in my 20's when the iron was hot, I wasn't interested in that type of work ethic. I was flaky, and I was more interested in going on tour with my then husband who was in the Beastie Boys. But now, I'm very different. I've got that work ethic now, and I make myself available to projects that are interesting to me.

TV STORE ONLINE: Do you consider yourself a private person?

SKYE: I am very open. I am not private about my personal life, with people I feel comfortable with. I've always been afraid of putting myself out there though. I do wish I was bolder, and less fearful. It's something that I'm working on. I have to always push myself into being an extrovert. A lot of things I'm interested in, I do alone, painting and such. But I do love performing it just takes a lot for me to convince myself to do it!

TV STORE ONLINE: Do you remember doing that Howard Stern interview where you

talked about your dad? From a psychological standpoint, dating and marrying musicians, do you think that has anything to do with your dad issues?

SKYE: Sure...But my mom has a lot to do with that aspect of my life too. She was everywhere in the 60's. She dated this musician, and that musician, and she lived in London in the 60's. It was an important time in her life. She talked so fondly about those days, that I'm sure that it's had an influence or an imprint on me totally. I mean I'm married to a musician now.

TV STORE ONLINE: How did you get involved in THE RACHEL PAPERS?

SKYE: I loved Martin Amis, the writer. When I heard that they were doing the movie, I met the director - Damien Harris, and I charmed him. There are three Harris brothers, Jared, Jamie and Damien. And they're all brilliant. They are Richard Harris' sons. So going in, since I knew that I was so bad at auditioning, I knew I had to charm him. Now, I don't mean sexually charm him, but I mean just charm him with my personality. It was a project that I really wanted to do.

TV STORE ONLINE: On, that note..Did you have to audition for SAY ANYTHING?

SKYE: Yes. Many times. But before that I got in with Cameron Crowe, cause I was good friends with Moon Zappa, and Cameron was really good friends with the Zappa family. So way before he was even casting for the film, I had met him. I think part of my appeal for him, was the fact that I was Donovan's daughter. You know cause he's so into musicians. Even after that I had to audition for James L. Brooks several times, and then finally after all that, they had these discussions as to the fact if I was even really very good or not. So it was a long process to get that role.

TV STORE ONLINE: How was Cameron Crowe as a director? How did he compare in terms with other director's you worked with prior?

SKYE: He was very nice. His thing is nice guy. He was always confident, and had great energy. He's passionate, and you feel like you're being taken care of when you're working with him. He's this whiz kid, that's got this friendly, wholesome quality to him.

TV STORE ONLINE: Where does the character of Diane Court come from?

SKYE: I think she comes from inside me. I think she's got the same qualities as me. Also, I think she comes from an aspect of Cameron too. Same thing with Lloyd Dobler. I think he's another aspect of Cameron. You know Lloyd's not classically good looking or whatever, and he's not really in the scene, but he's very popular, and he ends up not doing what everyone thought he would do, but he's ends up doing well. I think Diane Court, is like me, and Cameron too, in that sense that we both have that very innocent side. And at the same time, we're both precocious as well.

TV STORE ONLINE: Do you have a favorite SAY ANYTHING scene?

SKYE: I really love the scenes where he's broken hearted and he's asking for advice from his friends. I love those, and I'm not in those scenes. Making SAY ANYTHING was such a big experience for me, that it's hard for me to even look at it objectively. It's easier for me to like the scenes that I'm not in. It was just such a big part of my life that I have a hard time watching it cause I can't watch it as a movie, it's more like I'm watching my personal experience of making it.

TV STORE ONLINE: So can you watch your other work?

SKYE: I can. But it takes me like a good year or two, before I'll do that. I will, but usually the first time I like to watch something alone.. It takes me a couple times before I can get past my own experience of doing the film, before I can see the actual film and it's story. Some things are easier than others though. As I get older it gets easier for me.

TV STORE ONLINE: How many times have you been approached by a fan about the boombox scene? Do you get sick of it?

SKYE: Forty times...laughing...I don't know...alot! I don't get sick of it actually. I mean, I appreciate it. Having someone come up to you and start talking about that scene or SAY ANYTHING in general is great. At this level it's amazing. It's just enough fame to keep your ego going, and at the same time it's perfect cause I still get to have a total private life.

TV STORE ONLINE: How does it feel to be immortalized in a Beastie Boy's song lyric?

SKYE: It's cool. It's great. I love it. It's a great song. They're an amazing band. It's the coolest thing that will ever happen to me in my life being in that song.

TV STORE ONLINE: How did you get involved with GAS FOOD LODGING?

SKYE: My brother auditioned for it. He said I'd love the project, and I should audition. At the time again, I was just being flaky, and didn't really care about doing it. But I went in, and I guess Allison Anders just saw something in me that she liked. I think she liked my other work. I'm sure I gave a horrible audition though.

TV STORE ONLINE: How was that whole experience for you? Is Allison Anders your favorite director that you've worked with in your career?

SKYE: The whole experience was very in tune. I felt the most in sync with that character. It wasn't the first time I had worked with a female director, but I was very conscious that I was. She was great. It was easy to get into that character cause we were on location, and that's easier for an actor to get into the role, then if you're living in a city. The experience was amazing. Everyone was on the same page. Everybody was wonderful. It was just great. And the most important aspect was that

during production I really felt so confident in that role. Where as, when I did SAY ANYTHING I was very insecure. I took to 'Trudie' like a duck to water.

TV STORE ONLINE: Where do you think you channeled Trudie from within, did you feel any kinship with that character?

SKYE: Well, I grew up with just my mother. And Trudie did that too. So I could really relate to that single mother raising two kids alone aspect. We're both precocious. And you could just tell that 'Trudie' didn't feel as good as she looked. But I think I could really relate to her on a lot of deep levels.

TV STORE ONLINE: Nudity question...does it come easy for you?

SKYE: I've always taken the stance that if the film is good, then it's OK. That's my mindset. In America we're so weird about it. We'd rather show violence than nudity. And in Europe it's very different. What I find offensive is when I see things like "Girls Gone Wild" where girls are using their sexuality to get attention and get noticed. But if the nudity required in the film is important to the character or the film, I don't have a problem with it.

TV STORE ONLINE: Do you hear about a project, and go after it, or are you approached with projects?

SKYE: Usually I'm approached. But sometimes if I like a television show or something, I'll ask my agents if I can get in to do work on the project. I've had a few times where I've met a director or producer, and they've told me, "I really wanted you for my project, but you never came in." So I'm really conscious to make sure that my agent is following through with the right people for me now. In the past I wasn't so aware of these things, but now I'm trying to be more hands on about it. I'm keeping my eyes open more.

TV STORE ONLINE: Do you feel that your an under-used actress in mainstream film?

SKYE: Sure. Of course, I'd love to be used more. Occasionally I've felt that there has been a few projects that I really wanted to do, but didn't get to. These were projects that I really thought I was right for. Then at same time, I understand there are just some things I'm not right for. Other times, I'm told "we really wanna see you more.." So it evens itself out.

TV STORE ONLINE: How did you get involved in the John McNaughton / Sam Fuller GIRLS IN PRISON?

SKYE: I was just offered it. I am a big fan of the films of Sam Fuller. So I thought this could be really fun, and similar to one of those great old B movies.

TV STORE ONLINE: You directed a short film, called BED, BATH and BEYOND. What's it about? Where can people see it?

SKYE: It's about a Euro type director / producer that Roman Coppola played. He was making a movie about the Latino singer Selena that was killed. It's a weird, trendy version of a soap opera with a lot of crazy things going on in it. We've got S&M and lesbians, and it's very low-res. We all really directed it, myself, Roman, and Sofia Coppola. And Spike Jonze worked on it. It's not available to see, but I'll try to get it up on the web, cause it's kind of a cult film I guess.

TV STORE ONLINE: I'm a big fan of DREAM FOR AN INSOMNIAC. How did you get involved in that project?

SKYE: Well thanks...There was a P.A. that I worked with on the set of Allison Ander's segment of FOUR ROOMS. And she was a fan of mine, and one day she walked up to me, and she said, "one day, I'm gonna direct a movie, and I want you to be in it." So eventually, I think with the help of her dad, she got to make her movie, and I did the film.

TV STORE ONLINE: Can you talk about this film you did a couple years back, RETURN TO BABYLON? Did you research Virginia Rappe?

SKYE: Yes, I read about it actually. I didn't go crazy in depth or anything. But I did do some research. It was a while ago. I read some books about the Fatty Arbuckle story. I love that time of Hollywood, but it's kinda creepy to me, for some reason. I also think when I did this film, I was in a weird place in my life. And I've never seen the finished film. It was a weird character to play, and it kinda creeps me out now.

TV STORE ONLINE: You're a mother of two now. How is that for you? Does it change your perspective on things?

SKYE: Yes, it really focuses you. It's made me really focus on work. It's really fulfilling to be a parent. After my first daughter was born, I really noticed that I was a more compassionate person. I'm re-married now, and I'm very happy. As you get older you really figure out what you want in life. Re-marrying I knew I wanted someone that was gonna be very supportive, and someone that was gonna be good with my daughter. Our relationship is really fun, and I really admire him, and he's light, and has a great energy to him.